



Helping Protect, Conserve and Develop a Better Built and Natural Environment

PRESS RELEASE

WOODLAND SHIELD AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT IN THE COUNTY OF KINROSS

Kinross-shire Civic Trust is pleased to announce the award on Wednesday evening, 19 November, of its **Woodland Shield**. Inaugurated soon after the Trust's inception in 1991, the competition is open to schemes within the County of Kinross and Glenfarg Parish, to encourage environmental improvement schemes and a diversity of wildlife, including the planting and management of woodland and promoting public access for the benefit of future generations.

There were six entries for the 2014 Award with the winner being Kilmagad Wood, Scotlandwell, a community wood established jointly by the WOODLAND TRUST and PORTMOAK COMMUNITY WOODLAND GROUP. The judges commented "that the new wooded area dovetailed into the relic natural woodland and that there were obvious signs of community involvement and useage."

A Highly Commended Certificate was presented to Mr & Mrs Malcolm Curtis of Easter Glendy, Glenfarg, who, "over a period of some thirty years, have transformed a derelict mill and a rather barren landscape into a small hamlet, sitting comfortably in a sheltered glen with abundant trees and hedges, rich in wildlife."

The Judging panel comprised Mr Hamish Lochore of Blervie, Forres and Mr Len Yull, Near Glenfarg and they commented that: "*This judging exercise*

against specific criteria was exciting and exhausting. In every case, the enthusiasm and commitment of the six entrants was inspiring and the selection of the winner was by no means straightforward.”

The Chairman of the Kinross-shire Civic Trust Awards Committee and a previous Shield Winner, Patrick Milne Home, added that *“it was pleasing to note that the Shield had been won by a community group working in conjunction with the Woodland Trust and that there had been another community lead entry for a section of the Loch Leven Trail.”* He went on to highlight another entrant that had impressed the judges, *The Muckletoon, near Crook of Devon, which has developed an open access policy, particularly for horse riders, in a difficult but dramatic situation which provided views from the East to West coasts!*

After the presentations there was an opportunity to look at information on the schemes and to discuss these with the participants.

NOTE; Photograph attached of Louise Bachelor, Portmoak Community Woodland Group and Gary Bolton, Woodland Trust with the Shield and Len Yull, judge for the competition.

Further information on the Environmental Award can be obtained from

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